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Peres ups number of Palestinian work permits

BATSHEVA TSUR and news agencies

ISRAEL will increase the number of Palestinian workers allowed to cross the Green Line to help improve the economic situation in the territories...

Some 3,000 workers will be allowed to enter Israel from Hebron, Peres said.

"Then what we expect is... for the Palestinian Authority to make a real effort to prevent any form of terror," Peres told reporters.

He also stressed that he expected Arafat to make good on a promise to revoke, within two months, the PLO Covenant calling for Israel's destruction.

Arafat, however, avoided a commitment by saying it was up to the Palestine National Council to revoke the covenant, not him.

"The voters were not just voting for us as persons, but they were voting for the peace process," Arafat told the news conference, in a reference to Saturday's Palestinian elections.

Peres termed the elections "a real verdict [for] peace on the Palestinian side."

Peres noted optimistically the "beginning of relations of what one could call 'people-to-people.'"

"The Arabs, the Palestinians and the Israelis who live in close proximity will meet as human beings," he said, "and they will already be getting together."

He said that the years of coexistence with Israel's Arab citizens could serve as an example. "We have learned that Arabs and Israelis can build and live together."

Asked about a newspaper interview in which he said he could see a Palestinian state within 18 months, Arafat said: "It is my right to dream."

Peres, standing beside Arafat, said: "I accept it as a dream. A dream can be one-sided; an agreement needs two sides."

Peres referred to Arafat twice as he is, appearing to avoid using the term "president."



Palestinians and IDF soldiers clash yesterday near the village of Habla, south of Kalkilya, after the Palestinians tried to prevent the construction of a road and a fence around the adjacent settlement of Matan. The protesters threw stones and bottles at a bulldozer leveling the land, lightly wounding a soldier guarding the workers. The soldiers responded by firing rubber and plastic bullets. Two Palestinians were wounded and two arrested, Army Radio reported. (AP)

Ministers pushing for early elections

Sarid blames Barak for putting brakes on talks

BATSHEVA TSUR and SARAH HONIG

PRESSURE appears to be mounting among cabinet ministers to push for early elections, following reports emanating from Maryland last night of a hardening of Syrian positions.

"We are on the way to early elections," Tourism Minister Uzi Baram was quoted as saying by Channel 1.

"It seems like we aren't going to be able to do business with the Syrians this year," Environment Minister Yossi Sarid reportedly said.

Sarid blamed Foreign Minister Ehud Barak, currently in the US, for talking too hard a line with the Syrians.

"It seems that Barak is putting the brakes on, more than any other minister," Sarid said.

In New York, Barak told the Conference of Presidents of Major Jewish Organizations that Israel will ensure that every cubic meter of water that flows into Lake Kinneret is Israeli.

"Our position on the final border has not yet been determined... including security elements, water, and normalization."

Prime Minister Shimon Peres, the TV report said, is currently looking for an excuse to advance the elections and is expected to come out and call for early balloting if US Secretary of State Warren Christopher's next Middle East shuttle, early next month, does not bear fruit.

Speculation about early elections was intensified when, at a Labor ministerial caucus, Peres again urged party secretary-general Nissim Zivili to look into advancing the party primaries.

This was done in the context of a discussion about the party's gearing up for the elections.

Some of the ministers pressed for early elections, at which point Peres turned to Zivili with his request.

In Maryland, Israeli and Syrian diplomats and military officers resumed the peace talks, the State Department said.

Department spokesman Nicholas Burns said five negotiators from each side, including two Syrian and two Israeli military officers, had begun talks at Wye Plantation, about an hour's drive from Washington. He said the talks are expected to continue through tomorrow and resume on Monday for a few days.

Syrian officials named their experts as Maj.-Gen. Ibrahim Omar and Maj.-Gen. Hassan Khalil, both believed to be high-ranking intelligence officers. The Israelis are OC Planning Branch Maj.-Gen. Uzi Dayan and Maj.-Gen. Danny Yatom, Peres's military adviser.

"The United States hopes for very serious, productive and comprehensive discussions on all the issues that are currently separating Syria and Israel," Burns said.

The official Syrian press, meanwhile, urged Barak to authorize the Israeli negotiating team to accept equal security arrangements and agree to withdrawal from the Golan.

Faez Sa'igh, head of the official Syrian news agency Sana, described the talks as "a golden chance" and said the Syrian team is empowered to make decisions if the Israeli team responds to the Syrian demands.

Likud leader Binyamin Netanyahu said that if his party wins the elections, it would never cede the Golan Heights.

"It is not Syrian land, it is part of the State of Israel," Netanyahu said.

Biran, Bodinger to be replaced soon

ON LEVY

THE WEAPONS BRANCH will be replaced with both OC Central Command Maj.-Gen. Ilan Biran and OC Air Force Maj.-Gen. Herzl Bodinger expected to be replaced.

Biran, who will have served two years by April, has said recently he knows of no other major-general who was OC Central Command for more than two years, and has no plans to be an exception.

It is not clear whether Biran will be given another General Staff position or will retire.

The sources hinted that Chief of General Staff Lt.-Gen. Amnon Lipkin-Shahak might offer him the job of coordinating the army staff work on a future agreement with Syria, a job now being done by OC Planning Branch Maj.-Gen. Uzi Dayan.

Dayan, in turn, is being mooted as Biran's replacement, but sources close to Dayan say he is not interested in the job, preferring instead to remain in his present post and wait to be appointed OC Northern Command. Another possible replacement for Biran is OC Southern Command Maj.-Gen. Shaul Mofaz.

Bodinger is to retire in June. He is widely expected to be replaced by Maj.-Gen. Eitan Ben-Elihu, the current deputy head of the Operations Branch.

'Saguy has not been promised Mossad job'

ON LEVY and SARAH HONIG

FORMER OC Intelligence Branch will be the next head of the Mossad or given any other job, sources in the Prime Minister's Office said yesterday.

The statement came after Saguy met with Prime Minister Shimon Peres, and it was later announced that Saguy might not run in the Labor primaries.

Saguy had recently joined the Labor Party, declared that he was entering the primaries and that he is after a ministerial or other executive post.

Nonetheless, the buzz word in Labor yesterday was that Peres had now offered Saguy a high position and that Saguy is considering it.

The sources pointed out that the current Mossad chief will re-

there has been no discussion of possible successors.

The sources added that when the time comes, there will be numerous candidates for the post, among them several retired generals.

One source said that "Saguy is rethinking his decision to run in the Labor primaries. He has seen several polls that indicate he has no clear advantage over the other candidates in his district, and thus is reconsidering his decision to run."

"Since it was Peres who convinced him to run, Saguy wanted to get his advice. We are talking about a political discussion, not one about any particular job or anything else."

PA official: Israel must apologize to our people

ISRAEL must apologize to the Palestinians for its behavior toward them throughout history, in the same way Germany apologized to Israel for persecuting Jews in Europe, senior Palestinian Authority official Afif Safia said yesterday.

Safia also said that after the refugee problem is solved the PA would be willing to accept a small number of "certain Jews" as residents, as long as they accept the law of the State of Palestine. However, he said, settlers will not be allowed to do so, since they are not a bridge to peace. (Itim)

60 Kiryat Arba residents demand help to leave now

HERB KEINON

ABOUT 60 Kiryat Arba residents gathered yesterday to tell the media, as well as Meretz MKs Benny Temkin and Anat Maor, that the security situation on the roads has made their lives unbearable, and that they expect the government to help move them across the Green Line now.

The much publicized gathering, organized by Peace Now, took place on the grass outside an apartment building in the town, after attempts to fit everyone - including a large contingent of journalists - into a bomb shelter failed. The local council refused to give the group permission to meet in the community center, arguing that it has no obligation to help those seeking to undermine the settlement.

"We are here only because of the security situation," said Yossi Ben-Porat. "We are afraid to drive on the roads. We don't want millions, only to extract ourselves from this mud."

The actual meeting lasted about 30 minutes, and ended shortly after a few hecklers arrived.

"You are encouraging more terror attacks," one man shouted at the group. "You don't deserve an agora. What do you think, that buses don't blow up in Jerusalem. If you have economic problems, do what you have to do quietly. The Arabs are also listening to you. You are sowing the seeds of panic that will encourage more attacks."

A number of policemen were on hand to separate the arguing sides, and one of the hecklers was ushered away by the police.

When Maor and Temkin made their way to their car, after telling the crowd that they will make sure the government hears their arguments, one activist shouted, "You are giving people's pain to make political capital."

Temkin told the group that just as the government built numerous bypass roads, so it has an "obligation to answer your security concerns. We will not agree to your being kept hostage here."

After the gathering, local council head Zvi Katzover called a press conference to say that the group is a small minority in the settlement, and that rather than losing residents, Kiryat Arba has absorbed 196 families in the last two years. He did not give figures on how many families left.

Lottery fever Palestinian style

PALESTINIANS used to strike on the ninth day of every month to mark the anniversary of the intifada. Now they'll be spinning lottery wheels on that day, with proceeds going to those wounded in the revolt.

The first drawing for a top prize of NIS 100,000 will be held on March 9, Gima Samman of the private Palestinian National Lottery said yesterday.

Tickets will go on sale today, and cost NIS 10. Everyone can buy, organizers said, including Israelis. Samman said her company would keep 10 percent of the proceeds, and the rest would be channeled to intifada victims through the Palestinian Welfare Ministry. (AP)

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Settler council: Right must be united

THE Council of Jewish Communities in Judea, Samaria and Gaza must do everything it can to ensure that small parties do not form on the right and siphon off votes from the "national camp," Yisrael Harel said yesterday.

Harel was speaking to Aritz 7 after a morning of meetings held by the council in Ariel. The sessions dealt with both how best to organize for the upcoming elections, and how settlements can continue to grow despite the new situation in the territories.

"We want to ensure that small parties that either exist or are on the verge of being established don't cause the type of damage

they did last time, when they did not consider the general need and led to the downfall of the national camp," Harel said. He said it was not yet clear whether David Levy will indeed run a new party in the elections.

The participants at yesterday's meeting were told that right-wing parties that did not cross the electoral threshold in 1992, such as Tehiya, Rabbi Levinger's party, and the Sephardi breakaway party led by Eliezer Mizrahi, cost the Right some 85,000 votes.

"These votes were wasted, and ensured that Rahin won the elec-

tion, bringing the Oslo accords onto the horizon," Harel said.

Harel said that the council will not only support the right wing in the next elections, but will also provide it with organizational assistance.

Though the settlement leaders were also scheduled to talk about further development, Harel said that everyone understands that the future of the settlements will be determined by the elections.

Not everyone was happy with the agenda of the meetings, and one executive member, former MK Elyakim Ha'etzni, decided to stay away.



Members of a new, grassroots peace movement, which will act to raise support for the peace process and strengthen democratic values, announced its foundation at a Tel Aviv press conference yesterday and displayed their slogan "A whole generation demands peace." The assassination of Yitzhak Rabin and the mass mourning period afterward brought hundreds of thousands of young people to the realization that they must actively support the peace process if it is to survive, movement founders said. (Text: Michal Yudelman; Photo: Israel Sim)

Peres: Ma'aleh Adumim will remain in Israel

HERB KEIRON and BATSHEVA TSUR

MA'ALEH Adumim will remain part of Israel in any agreement with the Palestinians, Mayor Benny Kashriel said he was assured by Prime Minister Shimon Peres yesterday.

According to Kashriel, Peres assured him that his policy toward Ma'aleh Adumim is the same as that of Yitzhak Rabin. Rabin told the Knesset prior to the ratification of the Oslo 2 agreements in October that he envisions that a number of settlement blocks will be annexed to Israel, including Ma'aleh Adumim.

Kashriel said that Peres's statement is the first time he has come out in favor of including Ma'aleh Adumim inside Israel. Kashriel initiated the meeting with Peres.

Last night, after his meeting with Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat, Peres expanded on his statements and said Israel will not annex any settlement, including Ma'aleh Adumim, before a final agreement is reached.

Peres was twice asked to relate to reports that he had promised to keep the town part of a greater Jerusalem. He replied that Israel will abide by "the Camp David accords and the Oslo agreements, which stipulate that we cannot annex any settlements."

Government, opposition clash over PA elections aftermath

THE Palestinian Covenant must be changed if the peace process is to continue, Environment Minister Yossi Sarid told the Knesset yesterday, in response to several minutes of the agenda on the Palestinian elections.

"The government is united in its stand that the changes to the Palestinian Covenant will not be a trick. If the covenant is not canceled, there can be no trust between us. And without trust there can be no continuation of the peace process. I say this unequivocally," Sarid said.

Sarid stressed the need for the rescinding of the clauses calling for Israel's destruction, rather than the creation of a new

LIAT COLLINS covenant to replace them.

During the discussion, opposition MKs attacked the government for its decision to allow terror leaders in return in the territories. "Nayef Hawatmeh is like an Eichmann. Hawatmeh, like his other master terrorist friends, should be brought here in shackles for a trial and, like Eichmann, hanged. His ashes should be scattered across the Middle East, which is drenched in the blood of his victims," said David Mena (Likud).

Like most of the opposition MKs, Mena recalled Hawatmeh's involvement in the terror attack

on children at Ma'alot. "Their voices are calling out from their graves," he said.

"If he comes, he comes," Peres told reporters yesterday. "The question is not whether he will be tried, but rather whether he will be in Syria or in Gaza. I don't see any advantage in his being in Syria."

Hanan Porat (National Religious Party) accused the government of having no red lines and being immoral.

Sarid shot back. "Basing yourself on the past is not necessarily moral," he said. "And if we are trying to prevent wars and terror as far as possible, can there be anything more moral?"

'Hawatmeh wants to return to Palestine'

JON IMMANUEL

NAYEF Hawatmeh, leader of the rejectionist Democratic Front the Palestinian National Council, an official in his Damascus office said yesterday.

Israel has invited rejectionist members of the PNC to return for a trial period in order to change their views on the Oslo accords and to allow PLO chairman Yasser Arafat to convene a PNC session. Its purpose is to revoke anti-Israel clauses in the PLO Covenant within two months of convening the newly elected legislative council after Ramadan. The council would therefore have to meet by the end of April.

Hawatmeh "is ready and always has been asking to get back

to Palestine and openly asking for two years at least. And all he has been asking for is to have the Palestinian National Council anyway. He is not a member of the National Council," said an official identifying himself as Ahmad Yasser Kayali.

Unlike many other PLO officials, Hawatmeh has no former home here, having been born east of the Jordan River. Although mostly associated with attacks on military targets, he is said to be behind the Ma'alot attack in which 24 Israeli schoolchildren died in 1974.

Kayali said he estimated there were 30 DFPL members of the PNC living in Damascus, Amman and Lebanon.

Jerusalem slates NIS 60m. for Arab development

BILL HUTMAN

AN unprecedented NIS 60 million is being allocated for development projects in Arab sections of the city, Jerusalem City Council officials said yesterday.

"The move is an effort to strengthen Israel's hold on the city," said a council official.

A review of the 1996 city budget shows that the bulk of this money is going to building new classrooms, as part of an Education Ministry allocation lobbied for strongly by Mayor Ehud Olmert.

In other areas, such as welfare, roadwork, and planning, allocations for Arab neighborhoods still lag behind those to Jewish ones.

"We don't have any misconceptions that by providing better services in Arab neighborhoods, we will convince Arab residents they are better off under Israeli

rule," Deputy Mayor Shmuel Meir told a City Hall press conference.

The city council is also looking to equalize funding between Jewish and Arab areas, which has remained a goal since 1994.

Services and infrastructure in Arab sections of the capital lag far behind those in Jewish ones, with little funding having gone to the Arab sector in the past. The Olmert administration's policy, as put forth in the budget, is: "As Jerusalem is a unified city, under Israeli sovereignty, we must ensure equality [in funding]."

The development budget for Jerusalem's Arab neighborhoods is NIS 60.4m. out of a total development budget of NIS 272m. Before Olmert, city officials said, Arab neighborhoods received less than NIS 10m. annually.

Arafat accused of intimidating Palestinian journalists

JON IMMANUEL

PALESTINIAN journalists were so intimidated by the possibility of arrest for writing the wrong words that they stopped the Reporters Without Borders, the Paris-based media watchdog, said yesterday.

As evidence of reporters' fears they pointed to the fact that hardly one Palestinian journalist came to their press conference at the National Palace Hotel on Jerusalem's Zahra Street.

One editor told the group that he did not cover the elections "because it was the only way to be safe not to be arrested," Thierry Gruvillier said.

Three weeks before the elections, Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat arrested an editor at Al-Quds, the biggest selling Jerusalem Arabic daily.

His offense was that he did not publish on the front page a letter of Arafat being compared by the Greek Orthodox patriarch to Omar al-Khatib, the seventh century conqueror of Jerusalem.

Arafat, whose wife is Christian, said at a meeting with American Peace Now supporters last Friday that the Christian community was offended by the omission. He called the journalist in question, Maher Alami, "a collaborator who planted confusion between Muslims and Christians."

While Alami said there had been no room on the front page, Arafat said "the Israelis kept the picture off the page," because of their political position on Jerusa-

lem. "I released him only because Prime Minister Shimon Peres contacted me. He was going to be taken to the courts."

Peres said he believed in a free press according to law. "I am committed to these laws, Egyptian law in Gaza and Jordanian law in the West Bank. I cannot change them." Under the law, he said, "it is forbidden to make confusion between Christians and Muslims. This is not Lebanon."

Bassam Eid, a human rights activist who was himself arrested for a day before the elections, then released after an international outcry, said the situation was more like Syria or Iraq.

"I was in Iraq and it seems very similar. All of the violations will after two or three years take very deep roots," he said, "if not uprooted now, Eid said."

Acre students kept home from school in protest over collaborator resettlement

DAVID RUDGE

MORE than 10,000 children in Acre did not attend school yesterday as part of a campaign by Jewish and Arab residents against the resettlement of collaborators from the territories and their families in the city.

The one-day warning strike was called by the public action committee established by residents with the full support of the municipality.

Mayor Eli De Castro sent a cable to Deputy Defense Minister Ori Orr calling for urgent action to be taken by the Defense Ministry to move the families out of Acre and settle them elsewhere.

Not all parents supported the school strike, although the municipal spokesman said there was

a consensus among residents regarding the aims of the campaign.

The strike was also criticized by Deputy Education Minister Michal Goldman who said it was unfair to the children.

The residents and the municipality claim that the collaborators and their families are controversial and problematic, and their moving into Acre could upset the harmonious, but delicate, relations between Jews and Arabs developed over 45 years.

The municipality spokesman stressed that Acre had enough problems of a demographic and socio-economic nature without adding to the burden.

According to some reports, about 40 families from the territories have moved into city in the past few months.

The municipal spokesman said everybody understood the necessity to help those who had helped the state and that they should be provided with homes and security - but not in Acre.

The Prime Minister's Office said last night that the government has a moral obligation to ensure the personal security and full rehabilitation of collaborators, who helped the Israeli authorities in the territories.

Talks and sanctions continue over Rafael workers' dispute

DAVID RUDGE

TALKS between the Rafael management and the Treasury and the Histadrut continued in Tel Aviv last night in an effort to reach an agreement over dismissal terms for 250 employees of the armaments development authority.

Workers at the giant plant south of Acre are continuing with their sanctions, including refusing to answer phones or operate computers, as part of the campaign to get preferential

conditions for those who are to leave.

Yigal Cohen, head of the trade union department of the Histadrut's Haifa branch, said he was hopeful an agreement over the dismissal terms would be reached.

He said there were signs that their demands for severance payments and other conditions, over and above the stipulated minimum, would be accepted in part if not in full.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Third Way opens office in capital

The Third Way movement opened its Jerusalem office last night, at a gathering attended by movement head Avigdor Kahalani, and his fellow Labor breakaway MK Emanuel Zissman.

Kahalani told those present that as a soldier who has seen many wars, he wanted peace more than anyone, but not peace at any price. (Joe Charluff)

Woman likely winner of Gaza seat

With Palestinian council election results creeping toward an official conclusion, Rawya Shawa, an independent woman candidate, appears to have won a seat in Gaza City, which would make her the fifth woman to be elected to the 88-member council.

Shawa was in a see-saw battle with Said Mas'hal, a millionaire businessman who reportedly spent hundreds of thousands of dollars on his campaign. (Jon Immanuel)

Police broadcast tape of Amir confessing

THE media yesterday broadcast a police interrogation tape in which Yigal Amir is heard confessing that he murdered Yitzhak Rabin.

"I confess to the murder of Yitzhak Rabin. I am innocent of guilt of attempting to murder the bodyguard," Amir said on the portion broadcast on Channel 1.

The interrogator asked: "Did you at this stage know how you would commit Rabin's murder?" Amir: "No. I went and I knew if I had the opportunity to be close to him (here the interrogator interrupts and allows Amir to check he is accurately transcribing, then Amir resumes in mid-sentence) that I would shoot him." (Reuter)

With great sorrow we announce the passing of our beloved wife, mother and grandmother

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* Recommendations will not be acknowledged in writing and accompanying documentation will not be returned to the senders.
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The last date for the submission of names of proposed awardees is 15 March, 1996.

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Morphine patch now available for cancer pain

JUDY SIEGEL

A SKIN patch containing a morphine derivative has been supplied here for the first time. The recipients are two cancer patients, and the patch will relieve their severe chronic pain and allow them to pursue their daily routine.

The Swedish drug, called Fentanyl, has been approved by the Health Ministry on an individual basis, under supervision by Shaare Zedek Hospital doctors. The ministry is expected to approve its general use for suitable cancer patients in about six months, according to Dr. Nathan Cherny, head of the Jerusalem hospital's unit for cancer pain and palliative medicine. He also expects that the health funds will be obliged to cover the cost for members prescribed with the patch, which is worn on the back, stomach or other hairless parts of

the body for three days at a time. Cherny, who had experience using the patch in the US, was the first Israeli physician to receive ministry permission to use it here.

He said the patch is a boon for the 10 percent to 30 percent of cancer patients who cannot swallow morphine pills - either because of recurrent vomiting or for those having oral or esophageal cancer - and those with severe side effects from oral morphine, or dissatisfaction with suppositories.

Another recently imported weapon in the hospital's arsenal against cancer pain is a transistor-radio-sized pump worn under clothing that injects a spurt of high-dosage morphine into the patient continuously whenever he feels a severe burst of pain.

Ministry to discuss destruction of Ethiopian blood donations

JUDY SIEGEL

HEALTH Minister Ephraim Sneh said yesterday that Magen David Adom acted properly in destroying most blood donated by Ethiopian immigrants, because the incidence of AIDS carriers among them is 50 times that of the veteran Israeli population.

He added, however, that it was unfortunate MDA does not tell Jews from Ethiopia who come to donate blood that it is unlikely their blood will be used.

Sneh was reacting to an investigation by *Ma'ariv*, which reported that nearly all the blood MDA collects from Ethiopian Jewish immigrants is destroyed without informing donors.

Sneh will today convene the ministry's advisory committee on immuno-hematology and blood groups to discuss the matter of blood donations from Ethiopian immigrants and other high-risk groups.

Absorption Minister Yair Tzaban called on Sneh to appoint a committee to investigate the affair.

Dr. Amnon Ben-David, director of MDA's blood services, said that if any immigrant from Ethiopia was offended by *Ma'ariv*'s revelation that his donation was probably destroyed, "we apologize retroactively. However, most of the Ethiopian immigrants who give blood are soldiers who come with their buddies to donate. We thought that singling out an ethnic group and telling them to go home would be more offensive and embarrassing."

"All the immigrants who donate get blood insurance, even if their donation isn't used," Ben-David said. "International rules bar accepting the blood of any high-risk group, and this includes immigrants from African countries like Ethiopia, as well as homosexuals and drug addicts."

Since the early Eighties, 48 pints of donated blood have been found to have the HIV virus, four immigrants, Ben-David said.

The MDA blood official asserted that *Ma'ariv* "ambushed" MDA by sending a team "on the pretense of doing a positive story to promote blood donation. They brought a former Ethiopian immigrant and followed what we did with his blood."

"We fear the publication of the



A lab worker checks blood samples in a Jerusalem hospital yesterday. A report in *Ma'ariv* revealed that to reduce the risk of using blood contaminated by the AIDS virus, most blood donated by Ethiopian immigrants was destroyed without informing them. (Brian Hentler)

Forum rejects cutting NII benefits to rich

LIAT COLLINS

THE Knesset Labor and Social Affairs Committee yesterday rejected the initiative of the Knesset's social caucus to cut benefits of top wage earners in order to increase those of the lowest economic sector.

Committee chairman Yossi Katz (Labor) stressed the importance of preserving non-discriminatory principles in the allocation of benefits. He asked for an urgent discussion with Prime Minister Shimon Peres and other MKs to prevent any possible misunderstanding of the committee's social stand.

"Payment to the National Insurance Institute is in essence made on a scale according to earnings but its payment of benefits is uniform. Anything that harms this universal principle could bring about the ruin of the NII," Katz said.

Labor and Social Affairs Minister Ora Namir was not present at yesterday's meeting but forwarded a message saying: "I'm not willing to join in the primary campaign carnival of the social lobby."

"The government without batting an eyelid approved the transfer of NIS 2.2 billion to employers to cut their labor costs without having to mobilize external sources of funding and yet they want to use the NII benefits, of all places, as the source to cover the cost of the budget deficit. One can only oppose this populist trend which ultimately can only hurt the working public and pensioners," Katz said.

"The proposal would cut the branch that the NII sits on," said MK Tamar Gozansky (Hadash). "If you hit the social benefits of the rich who now come to the NII for six months, it is not fair to ask them again to donate, he is checked to see whether he is HIV free; if so, the frozen pint is defrosted and used for transfusions."

There is a period of several weeks to six months, during which people may have been infected with HIV but the antibodies do not show up in tests.

Haim Lichtenberg of the Pensioners Union said every effort should be made to preserve the status quo. "The average wage has increased by some 430% since 1988; the old-age pensions have increased by 186%. 'This proposal will ultimately result in making the pensioners poorer.'"

New measures to fight wolf packs on Golan

DAVID RUDGE

CONSERVATIONISTS and farmers are joining forces to stop wolf packs on the Golan from causing extensive damage to livestock - without harming the wolves themselves.

New measures are being adopted to try to control the packs, which are thought responsible for recent attacks on sheep and cattle.

The problem for the farmers could be easily resolved by shooting the wolves, except that they are classified as an endangered species and protected by law.

According to some experts, the wolves on the Golan are a very rare species and face extinction unless stringent measures are taken to safeguard them.

Nature Reserve Authority

spokesperson Dina Weinstein said that very few attacks had occurred in those areas where farmers had cordoned off grazing land or cattle pens with electrified fences.

Additional methods, however, were also being adopted, she said, including traps to catch wolves and then fit them with electronic devices enabling their movements to be monitored.

Other steps involve the establishment of "food stations," where it is hoped the wolves will feed, instead of preying on sheep and cattle, especially the young.

"We have already set up several of these food stations as well as traps and some of the wolves are fitted with electronic devices," said Weinstein.

Jerusalem, Bethlehem to build joint sewage plant

BILL HUTMAN

"SEWAGE knows no borders" is the motto of Palestinian and Israeli negotiators who are near agreement on a joint sewage treatment plant for Bethlehem and Jerusalem.

Jerusalem city manager Ya'acov Efrati said yesterday that negotiations are being conducted by the Foreign and Environment ministries, and should be completed soon.

The German government has already agreed to fund the project at a cost of more than \$100

million, Efrati said.

The plant is to treat sewage run-off from the two cities to the east. To the west, Israel is already building a new sewage plant for Jerusalem, to which Bethlehem will also likely be linked.

Efrati noted that the east-west division in the sewage system had "nothing to do with politics," and everything to do with geography and geology.

"The mountainous terrain makes for a natural division where one part of the cities sewage runs off to the east, and the other to the west," he said.

Today, much sewage from eastern Bethlehem and Jerusalem - including both Arab and Jewish neighborhoods - pours untreated into the wadis of the Judean Desert.

Psychosomatic patient cost health system NIS 250,000

JUDY SIEGEL

A 45-YEAR-OLD member of Kupaat Holim Clalit made 113 visits to doctors and underwent complicated and often repeated diagnostic tests - costing the health fund a total of NIS 250,000 over two years - even though nothing was wrong with her.

The prohibitive cost of dealing with patients suffering from "somatization" - a psychiatric syndrome in which the patient complains of medical symptoms that don't really exist - is reported in the latest issue of *Harefuah*, the journal of the Israel Medical Association.

Dr. Andre Matuloo, of Tel Aviv University's Sackler Medical School and district physician of Clalit's Petah Tikva region, writes that the case was an extreme one. However, imagined symptoms for which no physical cause has been found occur in 20 percent to 80 percent of all patients.

Matuloo notes that in today's

era of lawsuits, many doctors send patients for expensive, but unnecessary tests merely as protection from being found guilty if sued.

Asked to comment, Clalit spokeswoman Rahel Bloostein said that the general practitioner usually serves as an intermediary between the patient and medical specialists. But in some cases, patients see specialists without informing them of the tests they have already undergone and doctors they have previously seen.

A computerized system now being introduced into Clalit will, however, make it possible to pick up exceptional cases like this, in which resources are wasted on patients without medical problems, she added.

Bloostein said a copy of the *Harefuah* article will be sent to Clalit director-general Avigdor Kaplan, who will consider how to deal with the problem.

Sarid protests plan to poison stray cats

LIAT COLLINS and DAVID RUDGE

THE planned mass poisoning of cats by the Ma'aleh Adumim Municipality is illegal, according to Environment Minister Yossi Sarid, who sent a stern warning to Mayor Benny Kashriel.

Local animal-loving residents, alerted to the municipality's plans by a notice in a local newspaper, have spent the week campaigning to save the cats. Sarid and several animal welfare societies, including Leva Lechai and the Jerusalem SPCA, noted that the use of poison to control the feral cat problem is illegal under the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Law.

The groups suggested instead that the cat population growth be checked by an organized neutering campaign.

The municipality said the action was needed to cope with the problem of a huge population of stray cats.

Meanwhile in the Golan, the Nature Reserves Authority (NRA) said rangers had discovered incidents of poisoning in the past week which had resulted in the death of four jackals, a sheepdog and a female wolf.

NRA rangers went to the scene and found the dead animals alongside the carcass of a calf which had apparently been deliberately covered in poison in order to kill any animals which tried to feed on it.

NRA spokesperson Dina Weinstein noted that the Druse residents of the Golan were allowed to graze their goats and cattle on part of the training zone.

She said there was a strong suspicion that they were responsible for the illegal poisoning, in an effort to keep the protected wild animals from attacking their livestock.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Turkish president due here
Turkish President Suleiman Demirel is due to pay an official visit to Israel next month as the guest of President Ezer Weizman. Demirel was to have come here last November but postponed his visit because of the assassination of Yitzhak Rabin. He was invited to Israel by Weizman during the president's state visit to Turkey in January, 1994. *Batsheva Tsur*

Rothschild Miscellany facsimile stolen
A facsimile of the Rothschild Miscellany was stolen on Tuesday from the Italian Museum of Jewish Art in Jerusalem. Last year, another facsimile of the same manuscript was stolen in London.

One of the most lavishly executed Hebrew manuscripts of the late 15th century, the Rothschild Miscellany, comprising more than 70 works, encompasses all the religious and secular traditions of Jewish life.

The facsimile is valued at \$10,000. Museum staff have no idea how it was removed. "Someone just came in and took it," said a spokeswoman. *Greer Fay Cashman*

Jerusalem casino raided
Jerusalem police raided an illegal casino run at a shopping mall before dawn yesterday, arresting eight people and confiscating hundreds of thousands of shekels in cash and state-of-the-art gambling equipment.

Police believe a well-known city businessman is behind the casino, operated in the Yisrael Brothers Mall in the Talpiot industrial zone. The casino was run under the cover of an office on the second floor.

The casino's main attraction was a large automatic roulette machine, which is believed to have brought in NIS 1 million month for the owners. *Bill Hutman*

Maiden names bill moves forward
A married woman would be entitled to keep her maiden name and use it in addition to her husband's surname on all documents, according to a bill which passed its first reading in the Knesset this week.

The bill, submitted by 15 MKs from the Likud, Tsomet, Meretz, and Hadash, raised the wrath of the haredi parties. Knesset Law Committee chairman Dedi Zucker (Meretz), presenting the bill, said: "A person's name is an integral part of his personality. It's his social ID. It's not just an identification code, but an expression of his personality." *Liav Collins*

Upper Nazareth targeted for growth
The government will help Upper Nazareth double its population in the coming years and become a city with 100,000 residents, Zvi Alderot, director-general of the Prime Minister's Office, promised Mayor Menahem Ariav when he visited the city on Tuesday.

Ariav said there was a severe shortage of housing in Upper Nazareth as a result of the mass influx of new immigrants to the city which had boosted the population by 80 percent to 44,000 residents. *David Rudge*

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Bread, flour rise in price

THE price of flour goes up 8.6 percent today, that of bread by 5.2%, and that of Osem pasta products, 3.9%, the Ministry of Industry and Trade announced yesterday. *Jerusalem Post Staff*

Jerusalem: An Archaeological Biography
by Hershel Shanks

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Hershel Shanks, the editor of *Understanding the Dead Sea Scrolls*, is an international authority on Jerusalem. His latest book on Jerusalem archaeology traces the turbulent history of the Holy City 3000 years after its establishment as the capital of Israel. The great builders of Jerusalem - King Hezekiah, the builder of a famous water tunnel, and Herod who rebuilt the Temple, as well as destructive armies of Babylonians led by Nebuchadnezzar and Roman legions under Titus - the reader meets them all in this authoritative book. 200 full color pictures, and filled with many little-known details, historical charts, clear drawings make *Jerusalem: An Archaeological Biography* a perfect introduction to the Holy City.

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US worried about Bosnian terrorists

TUZLA (AP) - A fear of car bomb attacks and concerns about a former US Army special forces soldier led to a heightened state of alert at NATO bases in Bosnia, officials said yesterday.

The heightened alert was reported by the command of the NATO-led force overseeing a peace deal for Bosnia. It said that guards and security officers had been cautioned against letting an African-American in his 30s named Kevin Holt on any base.

In addition, a US NATO source said yesterday that US soldiers had seen a car with a group of soldiers suspected of being mujahedeen fighters parked Monday near the Tuzla air base.

In Washington yesterday, US Defense Secretary William Perry confirmed the US troops were on a high alert but said he knew of "no reports of any terrorist or extremist actually trying to get into US facilities."

Asked about Holt, Perry told reporters there was "one American who may be in the area as a potential terrorist - that's exactly the concern that we have had from the beginning" of the US deployment to the Balkans.

Perry offered no other details.

Sources in Tuzla, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said the danger may have been overblown by a military chain of command in which officers are filing multiple reports to cover themselves in case something goes wrong.

They said the situation appeared to be calming down.

The base, about a 20-minute drive south of Tuzla, is the headquarters for the US force in north-east Bosnia. When the force is fully deployed, about a third of its 60,000 soldiers will be Americans.

As US soldiers tried to approach the car, it drove off, the source said.

That incident, together with threats by Islamic extremists that

they may target US soldiers serving in Bosnia in retaliation for the life sentence given to their leader Sheikh Omar Abdel Rahman convinced of plotting a terrorist act in New York City last year, raised fears among US commanders.

Possible attacks by Islamic extremists have been a major concern for planners of the US mission in Bosnia. Islamic fighters came to Bosnia early in the country's 3 1/2-year war to help the Moslem-led government.

But they became a liability as the government sought more political and military assistance from the West, and its own armed forces improved.

Under the Dayton peace agreement, all non-NATO foreign forces including the mujahedeen units, were to leave Bosnia as of last week.

Some have been filtering out through Croatia in the past week. But others have taken Bosnian citizenship or have jobs working for relief organizations, or have joined the Bosnian army. They have "new jobs, or new names, or new passports," said another NATO source.

No more than a couple dozen remain in mujahedeen fighting units, that source said.

The United States has been pressing to get those mujahedeen units, as well as the soldiers who have joined the Bosnian army, demobilized, the source said.

Reinforced military police units were on guard at the front of the base yesterday. A day earlier, some reporters experienced tighter searches before they entered the base, and army dogs were seen sniffing around the headquarters' command center.

It was not clear whether fears of a car bomb attack were at all connected with the alert about a US citizen with sympathy for extremist causes.



President Bill Clinton shakes hands with Speaker of the House Newt Gingrich after giving the State of the Union address Tuesday. (Reuters)

Clinton hits campaign trail

WASHINGTON (Reuters) - President Bill Clinton went on the road yesterday with his State of the Union pitch in middle class voters amid signs of a thaw in his budget hostilities with Congress.

Clinton, whose centre-of-the-road posture propelled him into the White House three years ago, appealed for an end to partisan divisions in a televised speech on Tuesday night that effectively launched his re-election campaign.

Styling himself as above partisanship, the 49-year-old Democrat sketched a 21st century in which Republicans and Democrats team up in which families and communities - not costly and government programmes - bear much of the burden for making the United States work better.

"The era of big government is over," he said, echoing a frequent refrain of the most popular

US president in modern times, Republican Ronald Reagan.

Clinton, whose speech was laced with Republican themes, was expected to repeat his challenge to Americans to pull together - and address middle-class concerns about crime - during a speaking trip to Louisville, Kentucky, yesterday.

With him on the trip to a state that will be one of the midwest battlegrounds in this year's presidential campaign were Attorney General Janet Reno and the military hero he tapped to head the new anti-drug crusade, Army Gen. Barry McCaffrey.

A CBS opinion poll conducted immediately after Clinton's speech showed that seven out of 10 Americans liked what they heard - but less than half the country tuned into his speech.

Despite his conservative-sounding rhetoric,

Clinton laid out an agenda likely to resonate with the middle class whose votes will decide the Nov. 5 election.

He proposed giving \$1,000 scholarships to the top 5 percent of every US high school graduating class each year - a plan that would require congressional approval - and spoke of curbing violence on television, cracking down on teenage gangs, buttressing community efforts to fight pollution and raising the minimum wage.

Clinton also challenged congressional Republicans on the ongoing budget battle. He suggested passing the parts of a balanced budget plan that he and they agree on.

In television interviews, yesterday, House of Representatives Speaker Newt Gingrich sounded receptive to the idea, and the White House made encouraging noises too.

Chechen rebels release hostages

NOVOGROZNEFSKY, Russia (Reuters) - Chechen rebels released 42 civilian hostages seized in a raid in the neighboring region of Dagestan which ended in a bloody showdown with Russian troops.

The hostages, looking tired but glad to be going home, left in a yellow bus from a two-storey school building in the eastern town of Novogroznensky where they had been held.

The bus, which followed a convoy of cars with Dagestani officials and religious leaders, wound through a crowd of several hundred Chechens chanting "Allahu Akhbar" (God is Greatest) and "troops out, troops out".

Some people were perched on trees to get a better view.

Most of the hostages said they had been well treated by the rebels and some exchanged warm farewells with their captors as they left.

Some had been seized on January 9, when the rebels herded 2,000 people into a hospital in the Dagestani town of Kizlyar to press demands for Russian troops to be withdrawn from Chechnya after more than 13 months of conflict there.

Others were captured in the village of Pervomaiskoye near the Chechen-Dagestani border, where the convoy of rebels and hostages was blocked and then surrounded by Russian troops.

The Chechens are still holding some police commandos who were seized outside Pervomaiskoye. They want to exchange them for rebels who were captured by the Russian forces.

Icar-Tass news agency said 45 hostages were freed but reporters on the scene put the total at 42.

The village was almost totally destroyed when the Russian troops stormed it. But a group of rebels broke through Russian lines out of the besieged village and took some of their hostages with them.

"They were good to us. We had no problems. It was like brother to brother. A new life began for us after we sat for three days under the bombing in Pervomaiskoye," said hostage Russian Magomedov, 23, a businessman from Kizlyar.

Another, Anatoly Zdebskiy, 25, said he was happy to be going back to his family and bore no grudges against the Chechens.

"They kept us in various boxes, looked after us and fed us well."

The buses crossed the Chechen-Dagestani border at about 5 p.m. Moscow time in the direction of the Dagestani town of Khassavyurt, Tass said, quoting the head of the Khassavyurt district administration.

Before the release there was a meeting in the school attended by the Dagestani delegation and Chechen rebel leaders, including commander in chief Aslan Maskhadov. Salman Raduyev, who led the rebel raid in Dagestan, also attended.

A member of the Dagestani parliament, Gadji Makhachev, told the meeting that the group to be released were not really hostages.

"These lads saved their lives," he said, referring to the fact that the rebels had taken them out of Pervomaiskoye during the attack by the Russian forces. "The Chechens said we could take our people home. They are our neighbors."

Farrakhan meets Gaddafi on black lobby

TUNIS (Reuters) - Libyan leader Muammar Gaddafi met yesterday with prominent black Moslem lobby in the United States, Libya's official news agency JANA reported yesterday.

JANA said that Gaddafi and Farrakhan discussed at their Tuesday meeting "the situation of Moslems in America and the ways to unify, mobilize, and organize them in proper institutions with the aim of getting an important and influential role in the next US elections". The agency quoted Farrakhan, leader of Nation of Islam, as saying after the meeting: "We have heard answers that have not been consistent with things that have been put out in the past," said John Q. Kelly, who represents the estate of Nicole Brown Simpson.

More questioning of Simpson

Simpson endured a second day of questioning about his actions and his alibi the day his ex-wife and her friend were murdered, and attorneys suggested they caught him in a number of inconsistencies.

The former American football star has been acquitted of criminal charges in their murders, but the families of the victims have filed a civil lawsuit accusing him of wrongful deaths.

The questioning is part of preparations for the civil trial, to be held in April.

"We have heard answers that have not been consistent with things that have been put out in the past," said John Q. Kelly, who represents the estate of Nicole Brown Simpson.

Polish PM to resign after allegations of spying for Russians

WARSAW (AP) - The military prosecutor's office said yesterday it would investigate allegations that Prime Minister Jozef Oleksy spied for Moscow for more than a decade. The announcement led to the former Communist's resignation late last night after serving less than a year in office.

Oleksy, who said he would address the issue on television last night, has denied the charges that were first made last month. He had resisted calls by opposition parties and even from within his leftist coalition to step aside, but suggested he would consider doing so if the military prosecutor opened a formal investigation.

Oleksy, 49, is the first former Communist to be Poland's prime minister since the Communist regime lost power in 1989. In March, 1995, he became democratic Poland's sixth prime minister.

The Peasants Party, junior partner in Oleksy's coalition government, has threatened to form a new government with opposition parties or force new elections unless the ex-Communists agree to cabinet changes.

Oleksy has acknowledged he had been friends with a man who later proved a top KGB spy in Poland, but claimed he had only had social contacts with him.

He also accused disappointed supporters of former President Lech Walesa of fabricating the alleged evidence against him. Walesa lost his reelection bid to Oleksy's party colleague, Aleksander Kwasniewski, in November.

Despite the controversy, however, recent opinion polls show the former Communists are gaining support among ordinary Poles, while the opposition has slipped.

Dog shoots man in hunting accident

INEZ, Kentucky (AP) - Man shoots dog; not unheard of. But dog shoots man?

It happened during a hunting outing when a spaniel named Rusty stepped on the trigger of a shotgun and blasted 45-year-old Phillip Smith in both legs. He was hospitalized in satisfactory condition.

"It's not funny that the guy got shot," said Martin County Sheriff Darriell Young. "But it's kind of funny how he got shot."

Authorities said Smith and dog owner John Phillips were hunting together Monday when the 15-month-old dog retrieved a downed bird. Phillips was trying to take the bird away when Rusty stepped on the trigger of a 12-gauge shotgun and it went off.

Young said he had no plans to arrest the dog.

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TRAVELER

THURSDAY, JANUARY 25, 1996

Athens Greece's Point of Origin

By Ann Owens Gilliland

Copley News Service

ATHERNS, Greece—The sun was fighting the curtain of smog hanging over Athens. Below, a beehive of traffic smoked and slugged it out in metallic battle, but atop the Acropolis—never mind the dirty clouds and the horde of people—were sights to behold. The Partheon, with its massive columns, loomed up behind us. It's hard to imagine that this architectural wonder has survived more than 2,400 years despite wars and a 17th century fire that destroyed the roof, much of the interior and more than a dozen columns.

Also on the Acropolis is the Temple of Athena Nike, still impressive though the statue Athena is headless. In addition, there's the Temple of Brechtelion, embellished with voluptuous stoe maidens, and on the day of my visit, crowded by dozens of Greek youngsters on school break.

Walk to the south edge and look out. The city sprawls under mostly red-tile roofs. On a clear day, they say, it's possible to see all the way to the seaside port of Pireaus, the ferry port to the Greek islands. Directly below are two ancient Greek theaters—the odeons of Herodes Atticus and Pericles.

On the opposite side is a smaller hill where St. Paul delivered a sermon that caused Dionysius to convert and later became the first bishop of Athens.

In the valley below are the scant remains of the agora, or marketplace, the city center of ancient Greece. Nearby is the well-preserved Temple of Hephaistus. Built in 474 B.C. and dedicated to the Greek god of fire, the temple looks a lot like the Partheon. Virtually alone in the meadow and juxtaposed with the city behind it, the temple makes a dramatic photo. It's hard not to gape.

Of course, the Acropolis is the highlight of any tour of Athens, but don't even consider trying to drive through Athens' mean streets and tangle of traffic to see its sites. More than three million



Photo by Ann Owens Gilliland

The Partheon, located atop the Acropolis, offers a dramatic view of Athens.

Greeks—almost a third of the total Greek population—live in Athens. They are for the most part friendly, loud and energetic talkers. Few speak English, however, and traffic is nightmarish.

City tours typically include a drive by the modern Olympic stadium, the Temple of Olympian Zeus, the Byzantine Museum, with a stop at the House of Parliament, formerly the Royal Palace,

and the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, still guarded by the colorful evzones. This honor guard is comprised of tallish young Greek clones who don't seem to be embarrassed about wearing white tights, short white skirts and wooden shoes with pom-poms on the toe. It's a pure photo opportunity.

From the tranquil palace grounds, the bus winds through the hub-

bub of Constitution Square, and enters Plaka, an upscale area of shops and homes, part of which recently was turned into a pedestrian-only area. Last stop is the marbled plaza of the Orthodox Cathedral and the 12th century chapel beside it.

Continued on page 4

Ancient Civilization Lies Under Volcanic Ash



Photo by Jack Biesterfeld

The white-washed houses of Santorini are perched high on the cliffs of the Greek island.

By Jack Biesterfeld

Copley News Service

The mountains rumbled and the fields shook. Buildings swayed and birds shrieked. Cattle bolted and people screamed.

Then the volcano blasted away one of the world's greatest civilizations.

Some say it was the fabled Atlantis. Others think it was a great Minoan colony. But whatever it was, it ceased to exist in 1500 B.C. when a mighty explosion—some say the biggest explosion in recorded history—blew the island into oblivion.

What remains today is called Santorini, one of the most popular Greek islands in the Aegean Sea. Its quaint white-washed towns, ancient ruins and spectacular volcanic caldera attract tourists from around the world.

While shoppers and browsers head for the cliff-top town of Thira and sunbathers strike out for the black sand beaches at Kamari, history buffs head for Akrotiri, the Pompeii of Greece.

For thousands of years, an entire city has lain under a thick layer of volcanic ash, protected from the elements. Then, almost 30 years ago, archaeologists discovered what was the tip of the iceberg. Slowly, year after year, they have uncovered more and more of this ghost town. There's much more left to be discovered, and excavations are expected to go on for many decades before the entire town is uncovered.

Paved streets snake through a maze of multi-story buildings. Houses, stores and mills look out on public

squares. Beautiful frescoes decorate temples hidden inside many of the buildings.

Much of the site has been opened to the public, so they can see how people lived, worked and played in the year 1500 B.C.

Akrotiri was a wealthy port city on the southern side of Santorini, then called Thira. (The island has officially reverted back to the name of Thira, but everyone still calls it Santorini.)

There was a thriving trade with the great Minoan cities on Crete 70 miles to the north, and to other islands in the vicinity. Many experts think Santorini was merely a colony of the Minoan empire, while others think it was an independent, powerful state—some say the fabled Atlantis of which Plato wrote in great detail.

Archaeologists have found many hints that this island was the fabled lost continent.

Archaeologists have found many hints that this island was the fabled lost continent. It was ruled by priest-kings, and had an advanced culture. Farming methods, crops, pottery styles and artistic endeavors are all similar to the Atlantis described by Plato. And they were both destroyed by a humongous natural disaster.

The people of Akrotiri must have known something was amiss because of the rumblings and minor earthquakes that became frequent and increasingly severe.

The rulers must have ordered the city evacuated. When archaeologists uncovered the city, they found

Continued on page 4



Photo courtesy of Ellen Klugman

Left: An aerial view exposes the site of the joust of the Saracens.

Below: An armed knight prepares for the joust with intense concentration.



Photo courtesy of Ellen Klugman

Amid the Tumbling Terrains of Italy's Countryside

By Ellen B. Klugman

In the shadows of those cities known as the giants of Italian history and culture, lies the occasional gem which the untoured traveler often mistakes for mere glass.

Arezzo is an ancient Etruscan hilltop town which reigns over the tumbling terrain of eastern Tuscany, en route between Florence and Rome. Located about 55 miles from Florence and 150 miles from Rome, Arezzo poses an easy train or car trip from either city. Don't let the town's lack of fame on the Italian tour

circuit fool you. Where else but in Arezzo can you browse through one of Italy's largest and best known monthly Antiques Fairs in the morning and relive the frenzied pageantry and abandon of a 14th century joust in the afternoon?

Time your visit to include the last Sunday in August or the first Sunday in September, when Arettine cousins, brothers and neighbors square off by town quarter to compete in the centuries-old Joust of the Saracens.

Began in the 1400s as a tribute to the Crusades, the joust's original rules allowed all armed knights who appeared in Arezzo's Piazza Grande (the main and literally, "large square") to join in.

Modernly, the town elders have divided Arezzo into four quarters ("citadini") approximating the political and tax subdivision of old. Marked by their own colors and coats, the citizens of Santo Spirito, Porta Sant'Andrea, Porta Crucifera, and Porta Del Foro, select two knights each to compete in the Joust. Except for this minor change, Arezzo's citizenry has rigorously preserved the trappings of the original Joust of the Saracens.

In fact, the 20th century is nowhere in sight on the afternoon of this first clear breezy Sunday in September.

The sharp rap of drums signals the coming of Arezzo's musicians who proudly lead each quarter's

knights and their foot soldiers, bowmen and lovely ladies-in-waiting through the winding cobblestone streets of the old city into tournament site at the Piazza Grande, where trumpeters underscore the tension and excitement of the Joust with the beat of war-like airs.

An ancient, sloping square bounded by 13th and 14th century buildings, the Piazza Grande offers the perfect setting for this event. A portion of the square is crowned by a clock tower and turrets, while a porticoed 12th century church and a 16th century palace designed by the famed Arettine architect Vasari complete the square's dimensions.

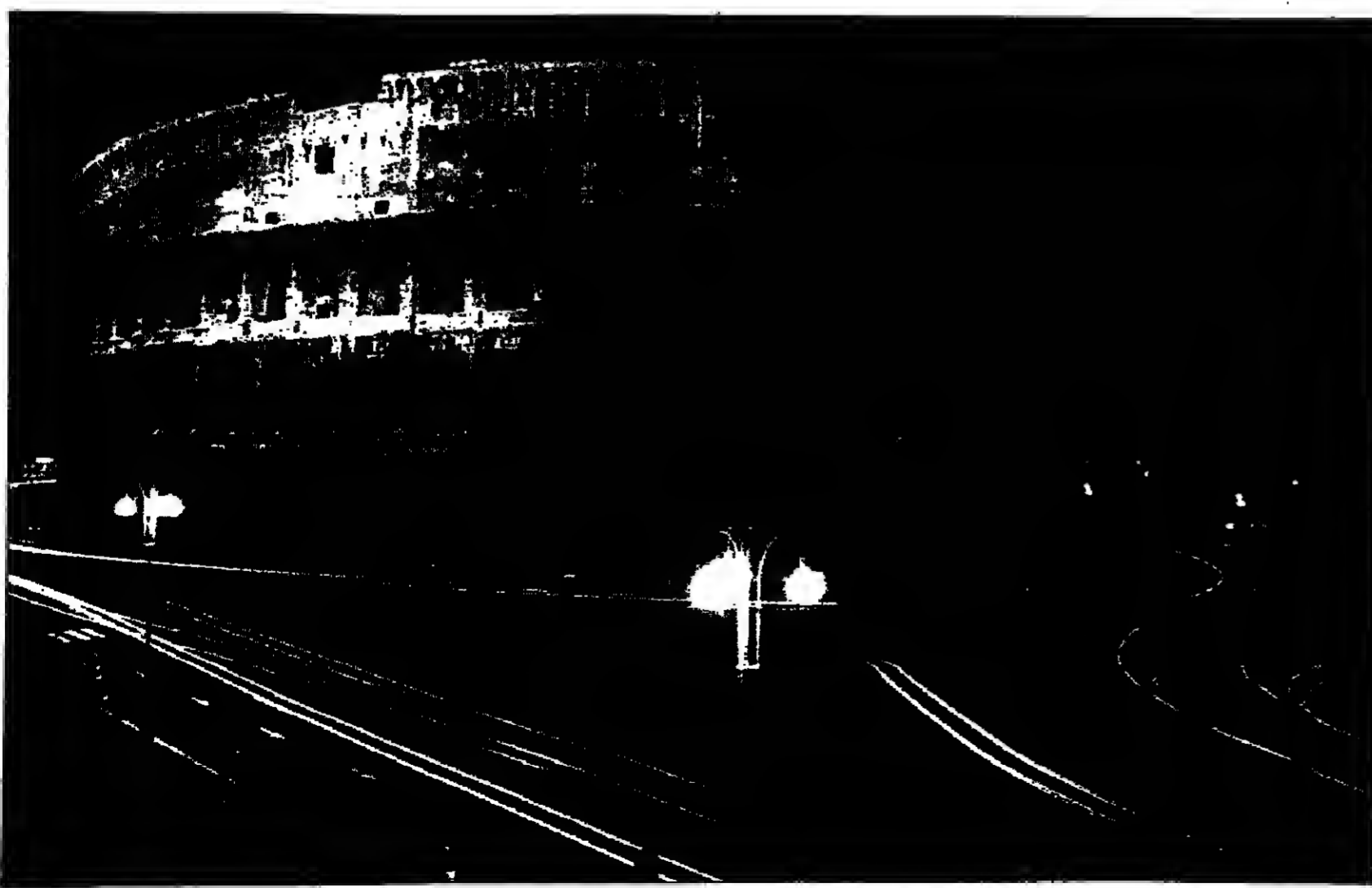
Most of the buildings are blanketed by huge, richly

colored flags proclaiming the occupants' allegiances in the tournament to come.

The Joust itself, however, is merely one aspect of this heady occasion. The performance of Arezzo's "gruppo stambierato" rivals that of her knights in popularity and skill. The first group to revive the ancient art of flag-hurling of flags between two individuals which escalates into a series of more complex maneuvers performed in pairs and then among sub-groups of four.

The highly spirited spectacle is fraught with a series of acrobatic tumbles and feints which show off the precision, speed and daring of each of the players, and mirrors the drama of the Joust to come. Finally,

SNAPSHOTS AFTER SUNSET



The Roman Colosseum offers a spectacular photo opportunity at night.

Photo by Ann and Carl Purcell

By Carl and Ann Purcell

Copley News Service

Too many photographers put away their cameras after dark and, in so doing, miss some incredible picture opportunities. Cities glow with light from a thousand sources, and we love recording illuminated buildings, monuments and moving traffic with our cameras.

The shooting techniques involved are not complicated. Basically, you can use any camera with a built-in meter that can control the exposure, and that means most cameras on the market today. These range from point-and-shoot to the more sophisticated single-lens reflex cameras. You'll need a good tripod, and it is desirable to have a cable release to attach to the camera if a connection is available.

The first question most people ask is what type of film they should use. Ironically, the answer is daylight type, whether it is slide or color-negative film. Daylight film records the mixed light from an illuminated city with a vibrant warmth. Tungsten-type film usually makes city night scenes cold and unappealing. Accept the fact that some buildings illuminated by tungsten light will have an orange or golden color. This is far better than the buildings appearing bluish.

Set your tripod and camera up in a safe location in a fairly bright part of the city. This might be the Ginza in Tokyo, Piccadilly Circus in London or Times Square in New York City. Compose the scene carefully and bracket your exposures with one stop over normal and one stop under. This can be

accomplished with an exposure control or by changing the ISO setting for each picture if the exposure control feature is not available on your camera.

Don't worry about moving traffic. Headlights and taillights will be recorded as streaks of light during the duration of your exposure, a visually pleasing effect. Push the shutter button (or your cable release) and the meter in your camera will calculate the exposure, opening the shutter and closing it at approximately the right times. You'll be surprised at how well your night pictures turn out. Just remember to keep your camera on a solid tripod.

Want to get fancy with flash? Many cameras allow you to use your camera's flash on a flash on a foreground subject, such as a person, and record the city lights in the background. Such lighting is used by the pros when they take pictures of models in city settings. Don't forget to keep the camera on a tripod even when using flash, or the city lights in the background will be messy streaks. Refer to your camera manual for instructions on how to take this kind of flash picture at night with your specific camera.

What subjects should you choose for night pictures? Try shooting neon and electric tungsten signs, such as those you will find in Times Square or in Las Vegas. Look for monuments and buildings illuminated by quartz lights, such as the U.S. Capitol Building or the Lincoln Memorial in Washington, D.C. The results will be well worth the effort.

Carl and Ann Purcell are America's leading travel writing/photography team. Ann Purcell is the president of the Society of American Travel Writers.

Right: Before the joust, knights, bowmen and lovely ladies-in-waiting are led through the winding cobblestone streets.
Below: Striking the center of the Saracen's shield confers the highest possible score.



Photo courtesy of Ellen Klugman

the groups converge in a frenzied crescendo performance in which all twelve flag bearers tumble and toss in a feverish blur of color resembling bursts of human fireworks.
Afterwards, a challenge is read to "Buratto, King of the Indies," and amidst the blare of trumpets and a roar of approval from onlookers, the Joust begins.
With lances poised in intense concentration, horsemen from each quarter charge against a huge effigy of the bearded, menacing looking "Saracen." The crowd falls hush, and all eyes focus upon the shield carried in the Saracen's outstretched left hand.
Striking the center of the Saracen's shield confers the highest possible score. The sport is made all the more dramatic by the fact that a lead and leather cat o' nine tails is attached to the outstretched fist of the Saracen's right hand, rotating on an axis when the Saracen hit. Points are deducted from the unlucky quarter whose knight has been scathed or unseated by the Saracen's sting.
Amidst cheers and boos from the audience, the victorious knights joyously accept their prize from the festival's King and his Queen. Swept into the air by their comrades, the celebrants bob *en masse* through the streets of Arezzo to begin a night long string of celebrations.
The Piazza Grande only hosts the Joust of the Saracen two weekends per year. Visit it on the first weekend of any other month, however, (the first Sunday and its preceding Saturday) and you're bound to discover the chaos and bustle of a different kind of sport, shopping at the Arezzo Antiques Fair.
There, stalls of antique furniture, elegant old porcelain dolls, walking sticks, 19th century prints, and Italian inlaid music boxes sit next to turn-of-the-century

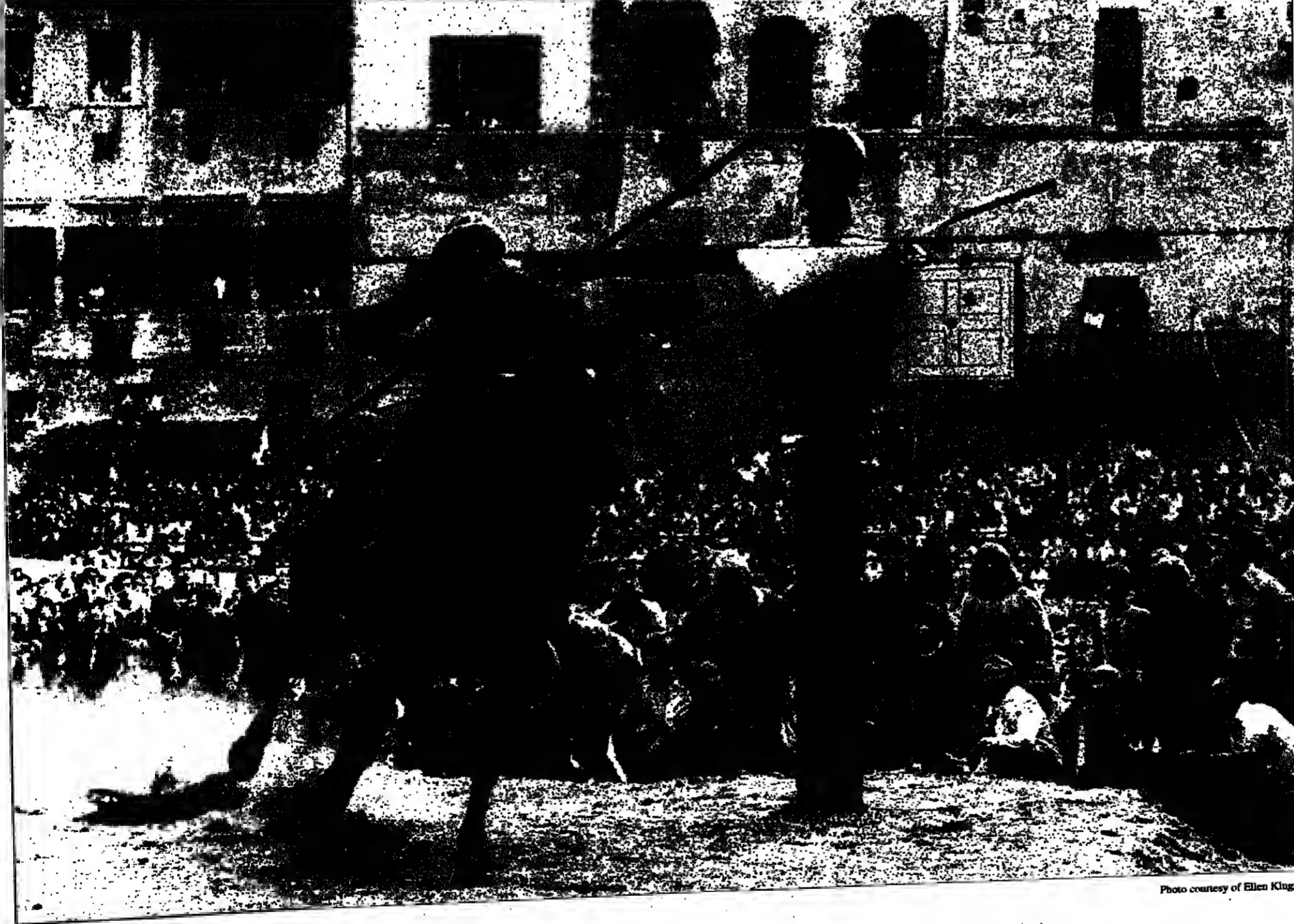


Photo courtesy of Ellen Klugman

hand-embroidered tablecloth, and worthless bric-a-brac brought by small antiques dealers and shop owners from cities throughout Italy. On the weekends of the Joust, the Antiques Fair is held in a shaded park above the old city.

Where else but in Arezzo can you browse through one of Italy's largest and best known monthly Antiques Fairs in the zied pageantry and abandon of a 14th century joust in the afternoon?

A discerning eye can sometimes uncover real finds buried among the usual flea market wares. In one stall, for example, amidst a clutter of gramophones, cheap vases, and necklaces lay what looked like a large, turn of the century Lalique dove, whose origin was confirmed by the signature on the heavy statuette's underside. The price was a real steal: \$300.
Whether or not you find a bargain, however, is almost beside the point. Arezzo's truly priceless aspects are available to everyone.

Ellen B. Klugman is a freelance travel writer.

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CAR TREKKING IN GREECE

By Ann Owens Gilliland

Copley News Service

NORTHERN PELOPONNESE, Greece—According to the rental car map, the national highway was over there, but we were over here. How to get from here to there was a puzzle. The only roads leading in that direction were dead ends.

Roads were ill-marked, jammed with traffic—particularly around Athens and Piraeus—and often meandered in crazy-quilt patterns. The rental car map was no help. The Greeks were friendly, all right, but few spoke enough English to give directions.

So why do it? Call it crazy, but there's the freedom to go where you want, when you want—sleep late, shop and go sightseeing at leisure. Besides it's a chance to see the real country, not just the one seen from a tour bus window.

Take the Northern Peloponnese. There's ancient Corinth, the seaside towns along the north shore, the ruins at Olympia, the mountain villages between Olympia and Nauplia on the bay of the Argolic Sea.

CORINTH

The traffic in Athens was a horror. But once out of the city it cleared and the 55 miles to Corinth went quickly.

A bridge spans the deep cut in the isthmus at Corinth. People tried digging through the peninsula as early as 67 B.C., but it wasn't until the late 1800s that the canal was completed.

Modern Corinth—or Korinthos, as it's spelled in Greek—is not much to look at. It's ancient Corinth and the imposing fortress atop Acrocorinth that people want to see.

Destroyed by earthquakes and invaders, Corinth was revived by Julius Caesar in 44 B.C. The Apostle Paul preached there during 51-52 and was inspired to write letters to the Corinthians.

Ancient Corinth lies around the bend, past the corner with souvenir stands and outdoor tavernas. Among the ruins is a museum with displays of Mycenaean and Corinthian pottery, fine Roman mosaics, terracotta sphinxes and sculptures. Standing north of the entrance is the Temple of Apollo, built in 6 B.C.

The road beyond the ancient site winds past orange and olive groves, and climbs the 1,363-foot peak to Acrocorinth, the largest and oldest fortress in the Peloponnese. The drive and climb up is worth it for the view.

The quickest way to get to Olympia from Corinth is to take the main highway that follows the coast, but a road parallel to the national highway skirts pebbled beaches and scenic villages, where an occasional fisherman dries an octopus in the sun.

It was easy enough to get off the big highway at various exits to drive along the coastal road, but almost impossible to get back on. Prepare to travel miles before finding a road leading back.

Before Patras, Greece's third-largest city, is Rio, home of the Castle of the Morea. There's also a car ferry here that connects with the Greek mainland across the way.

With too much traffic and industrial scenery, Patras is not much to look at, though it has some ancient history. There's the shell of a castle and, at its base, the old town with some neoclassical houses. Rising above the lower city is the cathedral of St. Andrew.

OLYMPIA

The road to Olympia veers away from the coast and rises into the pleasant mountain village of

Olympic fame. Supposedly the first Olympics were held here in 776 B.C. in honor of Zeus and continued every four years until 393 A.D.

Victors of the Games won a crown made from olive branches and perhaps some fame. The modern

Destroyed by earthquakes and invaders, Corinth was revived by Julius Caesar in 44 B.C. The Apostle Paul preached there during 51-52 and was inspired to write letters to the Corinthians.

Olympics were reborn in 1896. Today on Olympic years, a torchbearer starts from Olympia carrying the torch to the city where the Games will be held.

Temple of Zeus. Near the entrance are the stone pillars of Palaestra, where the ancient athletes trained. A few of the rooms around the square field, which were used for bathing and socializing, still contain 2,000-year-old bathtubs. Protected with a tin roof is a receptacle where the first Olympic flame burned.

Across the road from the archaeological site is an Olympic museum. Treasures from the ruins include the stone head of Hera and the marble statue of Hermes. The museum also houses groupings of life-size sculptures. In the town itself—amongst sidewalk cafes and souvenir shops—is the Museum of the Olympic Games.

Take the high road from Olympia through the mountains to Nauplia. It's narrow and winding, but it passes through villages where red-tile houses are

Out in the bay floats the fortified islet of Boursai. Pastel-painted buildings with busy sidewalk tavernas line the waterfront. Just behind them is the old city with neoclassical houses sporting flower-filled balconies and narrow, pedestrian-only alleyways framed with smart shops and tiny set-in-the-street tavernas. Looming on the hill overlooking this is the Venetian fortress of Palamidi. In the summer the fort is high-lighted at night, and in the spring there is a blaze of wildflowers.

Nauplia also has a Saturday morning farmers' market where piles of juicy strawberries and tomatoes share space with giant artichokes and cabbages. Most of Nauplia is walkable, even the hilltop fortress if one wants to climb almost 900 steps, but with a rental car, it would be crazy not to drive.

CAR TRAVEL TIPS

Arrange for a rental car before you go. Sometimes it's possible to get a good deal on a hotel-car package.

pay to be shy. Get a good road map!

Fill up with gas before entering long stretches of road. Mountain towns, beach towns and some facilities are not always open off-season. Greece's hot season is May to October, off-season is November to April. It's less crowded then, but can be cold and rainy.

IF YOU GO

Hotels: Check to see if rooms have heat and hot water, and look for the location of plugs/outlets (take an extension cord) and lumpy beds. Greek hotels do not compare favorably with those in other parts of Europe, so look a room over before taking it.

What to wear: For car travel, go casual and comfortable; few places require dressy clothes. Take sturdy walking shoes any time. If you go off-season, take an umbrella and sweaters.

Attractions: All charge \$4 to \$10. Check individual sites for opening and closing times. Off-season hours are irregular.



The Acrocorinth, located near Corinth, Greece, is the largest and oldest fortress in the Peloponnese.

Photo by Ann Owens Gilliland

Little of the old stadium is left save a stone archway leading into the arena, a few stone benches for VIP spectators and a stone starting block that stretches across the grassy arena.

The stadium is part of an extensive archaeological site that is still being excavated. Dominating the center of the tree-shaded site are the remains of the

stepped down mountainsides and where grizzled old men guzzle ouzo at roadside tavernas. In between is breathtaking scenery.

Nauplia—or Nauplion—is wrapped inside the Argolic Bay some 91 miles southwest of Athens and is close enough to other sites to make the seaside village a pleasing centerpiece.

If flying into Athens, try to arrange to pick up the rental car at the city's edge to avoid driving in traffic. Wherever the car is picked up, take the national highway and follow the signs, which are written first in Greek, then sometimes in English. Bone up on the Greek alphabet so you can read road signs.

Greek drivers are very aggressive, so it doesn't

Tippling: Tips are added to the bill (by law) at restaurants and tavernas. If service is especially good, leave a few drachmas extra.

Ann Owens Gilliland is a freelance travel writer.

Athens From page 1

The cathedral is at the edge of the Monastiraki, where there are lively tavernas and hole-in-the-wall cafeterias, which serve coffee, tea and cakes. Enough of gazing at monuments. Here's a chance to sample Greek ouzo, a licorice-like liqueur and wander around the Monastiraki's flea market. Amid the usual array of cheap souvenirs most shops carry leather goods, Turkish rugs, ceramic copies of museum pieces, and gold and silver jewelry.

After an overview by tour bus and armed with a city map, Athens is navigable by foot. Catching a taxi on the street is almost impossible, though there are plenty. It's best to call one from a restaurant or hotel and plan to pay about \$1.35 extra for the summons.

Athens also is a good base for side trips to other sites. Cape

It's hard to imagine that this architectural wonder has survived more than 2,400 years despite wars and a 17th century fire that destroyed the roof, much of the interior and more than a dozen columns.

Sounion, for instance, is an easy afternoon trip. The road skirts several affluent suburbs, skirts the pretty Saronic Gulf coast and ends at the southernmost point of central Greece. On the point, the Temple of Poseidon, built in 5 B.C., stands 197 feet above the sea. On a day without smog, at least seven islands are visible.

The road to Delphi winds along the Gulf of Itea. Delphi is worth at least a day or more. The archaeological site is a treasure trove including the Temple of Apollo, the statue of the Charioteer and the Naxian column.

Going west from Athens to the Peloponnese, the national road crosses the Corinth Canal—the deep cut in the canal makes a good picture—and goes to ancient Corinth where the apostle Paul lived in 51 A.D. Several tours take in the ruins at Mycenae and the lively tourist seaside town of Nauplion. Atop the craggy cliffs is an ancient Venetian fort and below that an old section of narrow streets with neat shops and a slew of sidewalk tavernas. The Fanaria Taverna may be the best in town for dinner. For drinks, the tavernas along the busy waterfront are lively.

IF YOU GO

When to go: Although Athens never closes, Greece's "season" runs May to October. From November to April, it's less crowded, but some places are not fully open and the weather can be cold and rainy.

What to wear: Resist overpacking. Greece is always casual and hot during season. Off-season, layer clothes like jeans and sweaters and take an umbrella and sturdy walking shoes.

Getting there: Athens has two airports—a west terminal, used by Olympia Air for domestic flights, and an east terminal for international flights.

Getting around: Taxis are inexpensive, but surcharges are added for many things, such as a number of suitcases. The fare should run about \$9 to \$10 from airport to town. City buses go everywhere if you can read Greek, and the KTEL Bus operates to North Greece and the Peloponnese.

Where to stay: For convenience, pick a spot near the Acropolis. As an example, the Divani Palace Acropolis, four to five blocks below the Acropolis, charges \$99 per night for an adequate, but small room for two, which includes a full breakfast. The deluxe Grand Bretagne Hotel, well located near Syntagma square, is \$270 and up.

Ann Owens Gilliland is a freelance travel writer.

Volcano From page 1

few artifacts. Anything large enough to carry had evidently been hauled away. No furniture, pots, household utensils, clothing or tools remained.

And there were no people, unlike Pompeii, where the residents were caught in midstride by searing volcanic gases and ash—and their horrified faces preserved for all of posterity. There were no bodies, no skeletons of man or beast (except for a lone pig) found at Akrotiri.

When the volcano finally began to erupt, it buried Akrotiri in a thick blanket of volcanic ash. Ironically, it was this ash that cushioned the city against the horrific explosion and preserved it for centuries to come.

If the residents fled the city to other parts of the island, it would have been futile. When the volcano exploded, it took more than half of the island with it. Only the eastern side remained. The rest was blown to bits. The sea rushed in to fill the crater, no doubt spawning the legend of the sinking of Atlantis.

The collapse of the volcano created a giant circular harbor that is now home to fishing boats, ferries and cruise ships coming to and from the island.

Visitors to Akrotiri today are led on guided tours through the town. Most of the excavation is covered by a huge roof to protect the ruins—and the tourists—from the stiff winds and blistering Mediterranean sun.

Once inside, antiquity is everywhere. Huge terra-cotta jars that once held grain, oil or wine lie abandoned in a roofless storehouse. A grinding stone can be seen through the window of what must have been a mill 3,500 years ago. Broken pottery lies in a heap in an abandoned house.

During the first part of the tour, visitors walk on boardwalks above the ruins, but they soon descend to wander the actual streets and alleys of the city.

The city doesn't resemble some of the vast, grand cities of the past, such as Ephesus. Akrotiri—at least the part uncovered so far—

is made up of one- to three-story houses. Generally the first floors were used as stores or industries, as there is much evidence of pots, lapidary craftsmen, metalworkers and millers.

The upper floors were reserved for living quarters and, in some cases, temples. Unlike other towns of antiquity, the temples were small affairs scattered throughout the city, rather than a vast and impressive building at the heart of the city.

These small temples were decorated with rich frescoes depicting scenes of the Akrotirians at work and play. (Unfortunately for visitors to Santorini, these magnificent artworks are now in Athens decorating the National Museum.)

Wander through West Square, one of the largest, and imagine the hustle and bustle of citizens going about their business. Peek in a basement window to see the piles of jars stored there. Another window looks into a workshop, where tools are still strewn about, awaiting the craftsman's return.

Farther down the street, a large window in the miller's house allowed him to sell his flour directly to people passing by. From across the street, priests could watch their flock from the door of their shrine. Farther along, a jumble of apartment houses stands in ruin.

To get a better idea of how Akrotiri may have looked way back then, head to present-day Thira, the island's primary city. Many parts still resemble an ancient city, with narrow lanes and alleys connecting humble buildings and shops. But today, instead of selling flour and pottery, the shops sell T-shirts, jewelry and souvenirs.

The streets, many only wide enough for pedestrians, are often crowded with tourists soaking up the atmosphere. Small restaurants and guest houses overlook the spectacular bay far below, and a must-do is sipping a glass of the locally produced wine in a rooftop restaurant as the sun sets over the watery caldera.

Another favorite touristy thing to do is to ride the donkeys up the cliff side. A wide switchback trail with more than 500 stairs connects the harbor to the town atop the cliffs. Or, there's a cable car for those who like a more civilized way to get up and down the hillside.

Jack Biesterfeld is special sections editor at the Courier-News in Elgin, Illinois. He has been a travel writer for the past 20 years.

Don't put up with being put down

DEAR RUTHIE
RUTHIE BLUM



Dear Ruthie, I've been with a man for the past four years. Everyone says he has turned me into a "shadow of my former self." He tends to say hurtful things when he is under pressure. Friends and family cannot understand how I put up with him. They think I am blind to his faults. This is not true. I often wish he treated me better, but I love him fiercely and I know he loves me.

He says I am the only woman who could withstand his insults. My problem is that I am becoming removed from my previous network of friends, since none of them wishes to be with me when I am with this man.

I envy other couples who seem to be able to socialize with one another. But I am torn, because I am so in love. Why must I choose?

In Love and Lonely Somewhere in Israel

Dear Lonely Lover, Putting up with being put down is a dangerous form of "love." The fact that you take pride in your ability to withstand his insults is worrisome. You may not be "blind" to this man's faults, but your vision in relation to yourself must be blurry.

You envy other couples' ability to socialize with one another - yet you are more intent upon eliciting a pat on the head from a man who is separating you from all other support systems.

I disagree with the assessment that he has "turned you into a shadow of your former self," however. Emotional abuse requires a welcoming recipient. You ask why you are forced to choose between the love of a man and that of friends and family.

The answer is that you should not have to choose. Get yourself some professional help, lest you

find yourself taking pride in being able to withstand physical beatings as well.

Dear Ruthie, My friend and I spend a great deal of time discussing the issue of finding a man who isn't either married, gay, or a total jerk.

A couple of months ago, she called me to announce that she had met such a man, and was "working on" getting him to notice her in a romantic way. Since then, we spent a lot of time talking about how she should proceed.

Last week, she and I were in a restaurant, and suddenly he appeared. She asked him to join us, which he did. That evening, he called me (after looking my number up in the phone book) and asked me out. I turned him down (though I, too, find him appealing). My problem now is that I don't know whether to tell her, and if so, how to go about doing it. I'm so nervous that I've been avoiding seeing her.

Friend in a Frenzy
Tel Aviv

Dear Friend-zied, If you continue avoiding her, you are apt to wind up minus a friend. This would be an ironic twist of circumstance, since you forfeited a date with an appealing man to avoid losing this friend.

If you don't tell her about the incident, she may continue to talk about him, all the while imagining there is still hope (apparently, this guy knows quite well how to approach a woman he is interested in). She also may hear about it from him - which would be worse.

How she reacts to this tidbit is out of your control. But, at least you will not feel you have to continue being evasive.

Letters should be addressed to: "Dear Ruthie," POB 81, 91000 Jerusalem.

A new show involving a free-falling kinetic water fountain has audiences captivated, writes Jessica Steinberg

STEVEN Pevnick has a major marketing dilemma. Nobody knows that they need his product. That's a bit of an exaggeration, but then again, Pevnick's creation does occupy a niche of its own.

Especially when you consider that it takes half a semi-trailer and a crew of three to transport the 43 crates carrying Pevnick's 10-meter-tall, 4,360-kilogram free-falling kinetic water droplet-fountain.

Pevnick's calls his creation a multimedia production. It is actually a fountain with computer-controlled valves which the water uses to build words and images, as each valve puts out pixels - the small elements that together form an image - of water. Using basic computer clip art, graphics that he designs himself and high contrast images like letters and ribbons, Pevnick runs various word-and-image sequences through the program that are then displayed by the water pixels.

"It's themed architecture," explains Pevnick. "I took the computer and moved it into urban fountains. I believe this is the next celebration of urban space, the technology of urban public display. Architectural digests tell me that when it's not just research, they'll take a look at it. But I want to bring it to the public."

The 51-year-old Pevnick - an associate professor of art at the University of Wisconsin - developed the fountain 20 years ago while he was researching the future of urban fountains. After receiving a grant, he designed and patented a water valve that "talks" to the computer. "The university has been a big supporter," he says. "It's a great re-



Steven Pevnick believes his fountain is the 'next celebration of urban space.'

search environment, very flexible, and they let me try to get this idea out there, sort of like a lecture circuit. They're willing to let me go fishing."

The problem is, it takes money, lots of it, to run this thing. After creating his first fountain, Pevnick was represented by the Klein Art Gallery in Chicago which steered him toward the trade industry, where various companies used the fountain as a backdrop for their merchandise displays at trade shows.

Pevnick grins as he reminisces about his entree into the world of trade and commerce, light years away from research and academia.

"At one show, I was talking to Chris Kennedy, Bobby's son who's in the family business, Grandpa Kennedy's Merchandise Mart," he relates.

"He said to me, 'Listen, I've got this building whose lobby is filled with people all the time. They're just waiting to put their name on your fountain.' So I told him, 'Yeah, but who's going to teach my classes while I stay in Chicago for a month to turn on the computer every morning?'" He chuckles. "In short, we have a lot of water and they have carpeting, that's why it can't run by itself."

Pevnick networked his way around, making contact with Kohler, the bathroom-accessory company.

At any given home trade show, the Kohler display attracts 70,000 to 80,000 people during each four-day show. And Pevnick's fountain is the perfect backdrop for Kohler's water-driven products.

"I was shocked at my first trade show, I had no idea," he says. "They have choreographed

World peace is in the air, but wars are still brutal

THE end of history has come and gone. The notion that the end of ideology would end conflict per se was rapidly disproved by the staying power of that old evil, militant nationalism. But this century of horrendous and bloody warfare just may be ending in an unprecedented outbreak of peace.

This time of year is traditionally the season for truces. Twelve months ago former US president Jimmy Carter engineered a cease-fire in Bosnia. During World War I, British soldiers played a famous Christmas football match against their German enemies in no man's land. Today there are silences on fronts to the north, south, east and west.

Many of the most intractable conflicts which have their roots in the post-war settlements of 1919, 1945 and the end of the Cold War are on hold. Those in former Yugoslavia and the Middle East are twin, the southern underbelly of the Soviet Union another. Several other tribal wars - such as that in Northern Ireland - have also fallen silent.

"It is true that there is more peace and goodwill to all men this year than last," said Sir Anthony Parsons, Britain's former ambassador to the UN. But he added a predictable caveat. "That doesn't mean that fighting won't break out again or that conflicts have been resolved."

Swedish academics who collate statistics on war, which they define as a conflict involving at least one government and causing 1,000 or more battle-related deaths a year, say that, since they started their records in 1989, there have never been so few wars waged in the world.

It is necessary to go back decades - perhaps as far as the late 1920s - before one finds an era when the most powerful nations of the world have been so free of war or its threat. In the past even periods of peace were overshadowed by preparations for war, from the rearmament and appeasement of the 1930s to the Mutually Assured Destruction (MAD) of the Cold War.

The great age of conflicts between nation states over territory appears to have passed; the last major example of such a conflict was the Gulf war. Yemeni warplanes did recently swoop over the Eritrean troops who had earlier seized the volcanic island of Hanish al-Kabir in the Red Sea, but there was something rather quaint about so traditional a war.

As for the future, military pundits have conjured up images of high-tech wars fought by "smart" weapons (as used in the Gulf war) supposedly designed to avoid civilian casualties.

THE WARS of the next century are already being fought in places like Ganderma, the Chechen town where Russian forces battled rebels last month.

In Chechnya, a state is not fighting against another state; central government troops are trying to put down a separatist insurrection. And modern weapons are being deployed, not to minimize collateral damage, but to maximize destruction and the "kill ratio" among the civilian population.

Chechnya, Bosnia and other conflicts point to a regression in the conduct of war to a more brutal, ruthless era.

"We are going back to a world before 1648, before there were nation states as such, back to the 30 Years' War or the 100 Years' War," said Prof. Martin van Creveld of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem.

"This is a world of small states, of warlords with shifting loyalties and wars without major set-piece clashes," he said.

"The conflicts are much more bloody as well. The people fighting them are not just soldiers either, but civilians too. That is why there is no distinction between combatants and noncombatants."

Nowhere is this more apparent than in Africa, where wars characterized by unspeakable acts of violence still rage, and where the UN and the international media fear to tread.

It may be that this sort of conflict will be increasingly confined to regions far removed from the world's strategic mainstream. Where it identifies its interests to be at stake, the international establishment - those countries with the longest strategic and economic "reach" - is prepared to intervene in conflicts as never before.

Perhaps December 1995 marks a mere hiatus. The antagonists in the conflicts which broke out at the end of the Cold War have fought themselves to a standstill. The new powers which will wage the wars of the next century and are for the moment competing in the new arms races in the Gulf and the Far East are not yet ready to settle old scores on the battlefield.

If there is one major restraint on states' ability to wage war which could ensure that this hiatus lasts it is cost.

There is also the view that, with the growth of democracy, war is simply going out of political fashion. As national leaders seek to win their citizens' votes, they are ever more aware that it is consumer comforts - televisions not armaments - that will ensure their political survival.

(The Sunday Telegraph)

Italian baroness becomes an anti-Mafia crusader

FOR many years, her story is one of personal courage; but also one of national shame. Her lonely battle is a reminder that Italians and their government have long ceded parts of the national territory to the mob.

Over the past several decades, law-enforcement campaigns against Mafia dominance have been only sporadic and have not substantially rolled back the influence of organized crime in wide parts of Sicily, Calabria and Campania.

Indeed, there is plenty of evidence of collusion between the Mafia and political parties that have run Italy since World War II.

"If it goes on like this," said Salvatore Boemi, the chief prosecutor in an understaffed anti-crime office in Reggio, "we will be out of business in a year."

"The Baroness Cordopatri is very brave," he continued. "But what is needed is a national strategy against the Mafia, like the war against terror in the 1970s. Anything short of that is useless."

Calabria is one of the more crime-infested parts of Italy. Its branch of the Mafia

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GAME TIME

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BUSINESS & FINANCE

THURSDAY, JANUARY 25, 1996

Namir: No intention of bringing in Chinese workers

MICHAEL YUDELMAN

LABOR and Social Affairs Minister Ora Namir yesterday dismissed the suggestion of bringing 50,000 Chinese workers here...

in large construction projects all over the world, including the Middle East. Namir said she does not approve of importing workers from China...

Man Co. to announce buyer of Elite shares soon

GALIT LIPKIS BECK

THE Man company of Britain, which controls about 24 percent of Elite Industries shares, is expected to announce next week which consortium will purchase its shares in the food company.

Man met with representatives of the Federman group and the Bino consortium in its offices in London yesterday. The two groups are competing against each other for controlling interest in Elite.

families, in attempt to purchase their shares in the company. The two families each control 8% of Elite's shares. According to published reports, Bino's bid is more than 50% higher than the market price...

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Cimatron of the Clal Computers group announced yesterday it has filed for an initial public offering with the US Securities Exchange Commission.

Economic agreements signed with Vietnam: Finance Minister Avraham Shohat and Vietnamese Finance Minister Ho Te signed three economic agreements yesterday.

Sonol is in the final stages of negotiations with the US firm Southland, owners of the 7-11 convenience stores, for a master franchise agreement.

Bezek to hold tender for advanced billing system

JUDY SIEGEL

BEZEQ announced yesterday it will hold a closed tender for five companies for the development and establishment of an advanced billing system for telecommunications services.



Israel Export Institute director-general Amir Hayak (left) and Amra Argin, deputy secretary of Turkey's Center for the Promotion of Exports, shake hands yesterday in Tel Aviv after signing a deal promoting trade between the two countries.

Ben-Gurion passenger traffic increases 15%

HAIM SHAPIRO

A TOTAL of 6.8 million passengers passed through Ben-Gurion Airport last year, a 15-percent rise from 1994, according to figures released yesterday by the Civil Aviation Administration (CAA).

of scheduled airlines in comparison to charters, with a 16% growth in the former and 14% for the latter. The second largest number of passengers was carried by TWA, which had 278,000, or 4.1%.

Japan surplus falls for first time in five years

TOKYO (Reuters) - Japan's contentious trade surplus fell for the first time in five years in 1995, and economists said it could fall further this year.

The yen's long rise up to mid-1995 and a resultant decline in Japanese competitiveness abroad led to increased imports and prompted Japanese firms to shift production offshore.

The dollar stood at an average of 93.76 yen in 1995, against an average of 102.37 yen in 1994. Many Japanese manufacturers, led by the country's largest vehicle maker, Toyota Motor Corp.

Dilution of FEPZ bill victory of statism over democracy

OPINION

DAVID YERUSHALMI

from Israel, and it is wary of secret deals, open applause for it, and endless schmoozing for more aid.

guishable from the earliest attacks of the bureaucrats, faulting the FEPZ idea for neglecting labor rights, environment and so forth. Yet, from day one, the proposal demanded that every single Israeli law protecting workers' rights apply in the FEPZ.

What would the government receive? Wrong question. What do Israelis receive? No more tax-financed handouts for government; a universal 15% corporate tax on distributed profits; hundreds of millions of dollars of direct foreign investment; and tens of thousands of high-tech jobs, without a single Intel-like bribe.

Mutual Fund for Foreign Residents advertisement with purchase and redemption prices.

PRIME Mutual Fund for Foreign Residents advertisement with purchase and redemption prices.

Bezeq - The Israel Telecommunication Corp. Ltd. tender notice for digital equipment and silver-plated cards.

Reading between the lines... you have time for trading action until 11 PM. ISRAEL DISCOUNT BANK advertisement.

ISRAEL MONEY MARKETS table showing exchange rates for various currencies and bank notes.

Handwritten text at the bottom of the page.

Key Representative Rates
US dollar ... NIS 3.1310 +0.10%
Sterling ... NIS 4.7269 -0.22%
Mark ... NIS 2.1074 -0.71%

NEW YORK STOCK MARKETS
New York market indexes
DJ Industrial 10288.16 +58.38
DJ Transport 1692.16 +1.12

Other stock market indexes
FTSE 100 3782.8 -0.2
Singapore Nikkei 20912.7 +1.85
Hong Kong Hang Seng 10902.2 -0.5

Israeli stocks in NY
NYSE AMEX
Am & Pco 41.75 -0.75
Amrad 6.125 -0.025

INTERNATIONAL MONEY MARKETS
Dollar crossrates (US)
Pound 1.511 -0.007
Mark 1.4845 -0.0058

LIBOR RATES
Dollar 3 months 5.25
Dollar 6 months 5.25
Dollar 9 months 5.25

Foreign financial data courtesy of CommStock Trading Ltd.
Futures, Options, Stocks, Bonds and Mutual Funds

INTERNATIONAL COMMODITIES AND METALS
US commodities
Cocoa Mar 1996 1298 +1.8

London commodities
Cocoa Mar 1996 1298 +1.8

Spot market metals (US)
Gold 358.50 +0.15
Silver 4.15 +0.05

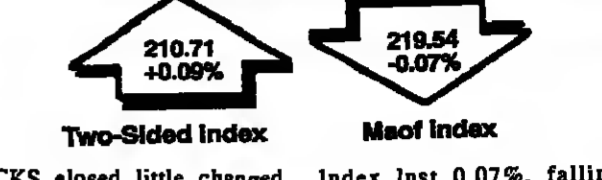
New York metal futures
Gold Mar 1996 358.50 +0.15

TEL AVIV STOCKS

Multi-sided trading
Two-sided trading
AFTERNOON MORNING
Name Price Change % Volume Price % Volume

Shares close little changed

TEL AVIV STOCK MARKET
ROBERT DANIEL



STOCKS closed little changed yesterday as investors prepared for index options expirations today.

The most active stock was Bezeq, which advanced 1.5 percent on NIS 11.5 million shares traded.

"Today and tomorrow, the market is under the influence of the options expiring," says Doron Tsur, head of research at Sahar Securities.

As for interest rates, "expectations are for no change" when the Bank of Israel meets on Monday, Tsur said.

The money supply rose in December, and in January, M1 is still growing," Tsur said. Still, central bank governor Jacob Frankel "is very unpredictable. I believe he would prefer to wait, but you never know."

A cut in rates, which would benefit stocks by making borrowing cheaper for companies and boosting their profits, "would be a big surprise in the market," Tsur said.

The Two-Sided Index closed up 0.09%, at 210.71. The Maof Index Inst 0.07%, falling to 219.54.

About two issues fell for every three that rose. Trading reached NIS 102.3m. worth of shares, about the month's average.

Elite Industries advanced 7.5% on NIS 6.2m. traded. Press reports said Elite's chairman and the holding company Clal Israel are making a joint bid to buy the 24% of Elite held by the British commodities firm E.D. & F. Man.

Chemicals issues were mostly higher: Agis advanced 2.75%. Petrochemicals rose 3%, Makhteshim advanced 1%, and Agan tacked on 0.75%.

Israel Chemicals was unchanged. Shekem fell 2%. Earlier this week, Ha'aretz ran a story on the firm's restructuring under chairman Gershon Salkind.

"Investors have great confidence in Mr. Salkind, and he has a track record, you can't deny it," of turning around distressed companies, Tsur said.

At the same time, the stock is "a bit expensive compared to others. I'm willing to buy enough of a discount" in Shekem's shares, he said. (Bloomberg)

FTSE Index up 23.2 points

WORLD MARKET ROUNDUP

the FTSE, buoyed by a 59-point rise on Wall Street after earlier showing reluctance to follow the New York market.

The FTSE 100 closed 23.2 points up at 3,758.2. Traders said the market remains wary about the Dow's recent volatility, faced by the uncertainty over the US budget.

Fresh hopes of further interest rate cuts, following a bigger theoretical cut in the Bundesbank's repo rate, helped give the market an early boost.

FRANKFURT - German shares ended buoyant trade high, as hopes for rate cut and firm dollar ebb to support the market.

The market has quieted after early start and dealers see little further room for gains, but welcomed the DAX's success to 2,436.68 up 43.56.

PARIS - French shares, buoyed by a rally on Wall Street, shook off fears of renewed labor unrest in France to close higher.

The house had slipped earlier after the Communist-led CGT union called for a week of protests, but investors concluded the threat was not too serious, a trader said.

NEW YORK (Reuters) - The blue-chip Dow Index raced up to a new record high yesterday on fresh hopes that an agreement can be reached in the federal budget battle.

Based on early and unofficial data, the Dow Jones industrial average ended up 50.57 points at 5,242.84, beating Monday's record of 5,219.36.

Early in the session, the index soared nearly 65 points. In the broader market, advancing issues swamped declines 14-8 on volume of 477 million shares.

ISRAEL DISCOUNT BANK

INTERNATIONAL STOCK PRICES

Table of international stock prices including sections for NEW YORK, LONDON, PARIS, and Frankfurt. Lists various companies and their stock prices.

Dow ends at record high on fresh budget hopes

WALL STREET REPORT

NEW YORK (Reuters) - The blue-chip Dow Index raced up to a new record high yesterday on fresh hopes that an agreement can be reached in the federal budget battle.

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CURRENCY CROSS RATES

Table showing currency cross rates for MARK, STERLING, YEN, SF, and FF.

